LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7923 NOTE PREPARED: Jan 13, 2005

BILL NUMBER: SB 580 BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Adoption.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Drozda

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL IMPACT: State & Local

 $\begin{array}{cc} \underline{X} & DEDICATED \\ \underline{X} & FEDERAL \end{array}$

<u>Summary of Legislation:</u> This bill provides that only a married couple that consists of individuals of the opposite sex are eligible to adopt.

Effective Date: July 1, 2005.

Explanation of State Expenditures: To the extent that an individual or two individuals not of the opposite sex would otherwise choose to adopt, the state would be responsible for the cost to maintain a child, that would have been adopted, in the child welfare system for a longer period of time. In CY 2003, the average cost for a Child in Need of Services (CHINS) was \$11,953. Increases in expenditures for the state are dependent on the number of children that would have been adopted, and the amount of additional time that they remain in the child welfare system.

FSSA does not currently know how many individuals or couples not of the opposite sex have adopted children in Indiana because this information is not currently requested or recorded.

Background Information: FSSA reports that in FY 2004, 1,043 children were adopted through FSSA.

Three states, Florida, Mississippi and Oklahoma, have similar laws to the proposed legislation. None of the states have studied whether these provisions have an effect on the placement of children.

Explanation of State Revenues:

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Explanation of Local Expenditures: See Explanation of State Expenditures.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Family and Social Services Administration.

Local Agencies Affected: Local offices of Family and Children.

Information Sources: www.gaylawnet.com.

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